

Abstract

A circuit for discharging a high voltage signal to a supply voltage line. In one embodiment, the circuit includes a first switch receiving the high voltage
5 signal; a second switch having an input coupled with the output of the first switch; and a third switch having an input coupled with the output of the second switch and having an output coupled with the supply voltage line.
In this embodiment, the high voltage signal discharges to
10 the supply voltage line when the first, second, and third switches are on. The circuit may include a fourth switch for clamping the high voltage signal to ground. The fourth switch may have a control coupled with the output of the first switch along a discharge path such that when
15 the high voltage signal is discharging and approaches a voltage level of approximately ground, the fourth switch automatically turns on and clamps the high voltage signal to ground level. In this manner, after the high voltage signal has discharged, the fourth switch clamps the high
20 voltage signal to a ground potential so that circuit elements coupled with the high voltage signal may operate.